O-WL-30 Additionally, during evaluation and restoration of one to two 5th level watersheds per year, known locations of the following sensitive aquatic species will provide priority areas for proactive management to improve habitats:

Least darter

Greater redhorse

Pugnose shiner

Creek heelsplitter

Fluted-shell mussel

Black sandshell

Vertree's caddisfly

G-WL-23 Protect known sensitive mussel beds.

All Sensitive Plants

O-WL-31 Enhance or restore high-quality habitat on a minimum of 20 (average of 2 sites per year) known sites of sensitive plants. Priority for habitat improvement will generally be for those species and habitats for which:

a. Proactive management (versus protection based on avoidance of any management activities) is needed to maintain species and

b. Coarse filter management does not provide adequate maintenance or restoration.

S-WL-6 Prohibit the harvesting of sensitive and State listed threatened and endangered plants. Exceptions may be made for scientific research purposes or in fulfillment of treaty rights.

Goblin Fern

S-WL-7

a) Activities that could disturb goblin ferns, their habitat, or microhabitat should not occur within 250 feet of known goblin fern populations. The exception to this standard is for administrative studies or research that contributes to the conservation of the species.

b) In suitable habitat that is immediately adjacent and contiguous to existing populations beyond the 250-foot no-activity zone, site disturbing activities should occur only during frozen ground conditions (as evidenced by an absence of rutting, compaction, or breaking through the frost layer), and a minimum canopy closure of 70% should be maintained. (Single tree selection would generally meet desired conditions in this standard, but group selection harvest does not meet conditions desired in this standard because of the gaps created in proximity to occupied habitat.)

c) Minimize the likelihood of worm invasion in existing or potential habitat areas identified as having low potential for worm invasion. Such conditions exist where areas are void of roads and trails (or where densities can be minimized), developments, lakes and streams that support game fish, or are isolated due to wetlands or some other condition not conducive to worm colonization. Examples of actions to minimize worm invasion include limiting vehicle or ORV access, road building, or summer activities that move soil into geologically isolated habitat.

d) In unoccupied habitat, not contiguous to occupied habitat, of moderate or high quality (generally defined as mature or older northern hardwoods, mixed hardwoods on Mesic Northern Hardwood or Rich Hardwood Native Plant Communities; on sites currently free of exotic worm populations):

In order to avoid light level changes that result in soil temperature increases, humidity and soil moisture decreases, management activities will maintain a minimum of 70% crown closure on average at the stand level. (Single tree or group selection harvests could be used as long as at least minimal conditions desired in the standard are met). On low quality unoccupied habitat or former habitat